



Job Description for: DRAINAGE & WASTEWATER COLLECTION WORKER APPRENTICE

Job Summary:

Positions in this class are enrolled in a formal training program designed to prepare them for journey-level Drainage and Wastewater Collection Worker. In addition to having classroom instruction, employees assist journey-level Drainage and Wastewater Collection Workers in the construction, installation, maintenance, and repair of the Drainage and Wastewater infrastructure. Apprentices assist with closed-circuit inspection of sewer lines and drainage systems and construct excavations, shafts, tunnels and maintenance holes. The work includes performing related excavations and the maintenance of all equipment related to these tasks.

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Job:

Drainage and Wastewater Worker Apprentice is distinguished from other levels in the series in that employees in this class are enrolled in a formal training program designed to prepare them for journey-level Drainage and Wastewater Collection Worker. On-the-job training and classroom instruction are provided on an ongoing basis. Employees in this class, under the direction of journey-level Drainage and Wastewater Collection Workers, will assist and learn to perform several related types of tasks such as excavating, shoring and backfilling tunnels and trenches. This employee is assigned to a wastewater maintenance crew and, under continuing supervision, assists a worker or lead worker in constructing, repairing, and maintaining sewer lines and drainage systems. Employees assist journey-level workers and perform increasingly more difficult work as they progress through the apprenticeship program. Guidelines and instructions exist for each of these tasks, and assignments are reviewed in progress and upon completion.

The apprentice will become proficient in basic sewer and drainage theories and principles, operation of hand, power, and digging tools used in the drainage and wastewater trades, and safety procedures and regulations. Judgment is used in selecting proper materials and tools for each task and in dealing with work area safety hazards.

The apprentice must use a variety of sewer maps and charts and learn to determine the tools necessary to complete various jobs, as well as follow department, OSHA, and WISHA safety regulations.

Personal contacts are mainly with other City employees, and occasionally with private contractors and the general public for the purpose of interacting and providing the repair and safety of the work site.

Examples of Work:

- Operate machines used to remove roots and debris from sewer lines, including rodder, jet machine, and drag machine.

- Construct shafts, tunnels and maintenance holes; install shoring, cribbing, sewer pipe, catch basins, storm drains and retention systems.
- Operate winches pulling a closed-circuit television camera through sewer lines; monitor TV screen to inspect for damage or root growth; and inputs information into a computer database indicating location and extent of the problem.
- Reline and repair sewer and storm drain pipes and lines including marking the repair area, break-out pavement, build shoring sets, excavate, remove and replace broken lines, backfill, pavement restoration, re-landscape, and clean-up site.
- Inspect sewers and drain lines for backups and clogs, remove foreign objects where possible; locate buried or hidden maintenance holes; determine location of backups and determine if they are city-related.
- Operate equipment to remove debris from catch basins.
- Inspect and maintain all equipment related to wastewater line repair and construction, including trucks.
- Drive trucks necessary to transport equipment.
- Operate jackhammer and other tools necessary to gain access to sewer pipes by street excavation and soil excavation.
- Set up traffic diverting equipment and direct traffic around construction site.
- Determine materials and tools needed for jobs, and stock trucks.
- Performs other related duties of a comparable level/type as assigned.

Work Environment/Physical Demands:

Work is performed outdoors in all weather conditions. Exposure to hazards such as noxious gas, radioactive and hazardous waste materials, excavations, loud noise, and vehicle traffic is inherent to the position. Work is physically demanding and may be done in excavations at considerable depth and in confined spaces. Digging, bending, stooping, and lifting objects weighing in excess of 50 pounds are required.

Work schedule reflects 7 day, 24 hour operation. May be required to work graveyard, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Occasionally required to be on call 24 hours a day. Schedule is determined by Drainage and Wastewater management and the apprenticeship rotation requirements.

Minimum Qualifications:

Must be a minimum eighteen (18) years of age. Must be a high school or vocational school graduate or have a GED equivalency. Must have a current Driver's License.

Licensing and Other Requirements:

Must meet current State of Washington driver's license regulations as applicable to each position in this class. Must obtain, and maintain in good standing, a State of Washington Commercial Class B drivers' license with a tanker endorsement and the Air Brake restriction removed within 4 months of hire. Must have the ability to obtain and maintain a Traffic Control and Flagging Certificate, First Aid and CPR Card.

Comments:

This description was prepared to indicate the kinds of activities and levels of work difficulty required of positions in this class. It is not intended as a complete list of specific duties and responsibilities.